

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) A method of operating a portable telephone having plural numbered dialing keys that each have a unique identity for dialing a telephone number, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing the telephone in a call origination mode; operating one of the plural numbered dialing keys and determining the unique identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys; and

as soon as the unique identity of the operated one of the plural keys is determined, changing from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated based on the determined unique identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the operating mode in which a call cannot be originated is a stored telephone number search mode.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of changing from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated occurs when

the determined identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys is one of a first set of the plural numbered dialing keys and wherein the step of changing from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated does not occur when the determined identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys is one of a second set of the plural numbered dialing keys that does not overlap the first set.

23. (previously presented) A method of operating a portable telephone having plural numbered dialing keys for dialing a telephone number, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing the telephone in a call origination mode; operating one of the plural numbered dialing keys and determining an identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys; and

changing from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated based on the determined identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys,

wherein the step of changing from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated occurs when the determined identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys is one of a first set of the plural numbered dialing keys and wherein the step of changing from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated does not occur when the determined identity of the

operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys is one of a second set of the plural numbered dialing keys that does not overlap the first set.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of operating [[the]] two keys in the first set to perform a search of stored telephone numbers.

25. (previously presented) A portable telephone comprising:

plural numbered dialing keys that each have a unique identity for dialing a telephone number; and

a processor that establishes a call origination mode, determines the unique identity of an operated one of said plural numbered dialing keys, and as soon as the unique identity of the operated one of the plural keys is determined, changes the telephone from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated based on the determined unique identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys.

26. (previously presented) The telephone of claim 25, wherein the operating mode in which a call cannot be originated is a stored telephone number search mode.

27. (previously presented) The telephone of claim 25, wherein said plural numbered dialing keys include a first set of keys whose operation causes said processor to change from the call origination mode to the operating mode in which a call cannot be originated and a second set of keys whose operation

causes said processor to stay in the call origination mode, said first set of keys not overlapping said second set of keys.

28. (previously presented) A portable telephone comprising:

plural numbered dialing keys for dialing a telephone number; and

a processor that establishes a call origination mode, determines an identity of an operated one of said plural numbered dialing keys, and changes the telephone from the call origination mode to an operating mode in which a call cannot be originated based on the determined identity of the operated one of the plural numbered dialing keys,

wherein said plural numbered dialing keys include a first set of keys whose operation causes said processor to change from the call origination mode to the operating mode in which a call cannot be originated and a second set of keys whose operation causes said processor to stay in the call origination mode, said first set of keys not overlapping said second set of keys.

29. (previously presented) The telephone of claim 28, wherein said processor performs a search of stored telephone numbers when a key in said first set of keys is operated.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the second set includes keys for "0" and "1" and the

first set includes two of the plural numbered dialing keys that are next to each other.

31. (previously presented) The portable telephone of claim 28, wherein the second set includes keys for "0" and "1" and the first set includes two of the plural numbered dialing keys that are next to each other.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the second set includes keys for "0" and "1" and the first set includes two of the plural numbered dialing keys that are next to each other.

33. (previously presented) The portable telephone of claim 25, wherein the second set includes keys for "0" and "1" and the first set includes two of the plural numbered dialing keys that are next to each other.